

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

24 FEBRUARY 1964
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. Cyprus

a. U Thant's round of talks this weekend seems to have done little more than to make clear what was already well known.

b. The Cypriots will not allow any reference to the Treaty of Guarantee in a UN resolution. They would prefer no resolution to one which mentions it, and they can probably count on the Soviets to back them in this.

c. The Turks, on the other hand, are equally determined that a resolution reaffirm the treaty which gives them the right to intervene.

d. Mercifully, the situation on the island remains relatively calm, but both camps continue to recruit personnel and prepare for eventual civil war.

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2. Indonesia-
Malaysia

a. Malaysia has declared its Borneo territories an "air defense zone" effective early Tuesday morning.

(Cont'd)

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c. Sukarno, meanwhile, has told Ambassador Jones he must supply his guerrillas and will use any necessary means to do so. He refuses to withdraw them.

d. If anything, Sukarno moved backward in this conversation. He, in effect, told Jones he wanted a peaceful settlement on his own terms.

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(Cont 'd)

g. Along with a determination to prevent any Indonesian resupply operations by air, the Malaysians probably intend to step-up operations to roundup remaining guerrillas.

h. Judging by the clashes reported this weekend, which apparently are continuing in Sarawak, the cease-fire already exists in name only.

i. Sukarno meets Macapagal formally on Tuesday in Bali

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3. Sino-Soviet dispute

a. Reports are circulating in Moscow that the Soviet press will today publish a speech given at last week's party central committee meeting by Presidium member Suslov.

b. Apparently it concerns another, possibly final, appeal for Chinese agreement to a moratorium on public attacks.

c. The last time the Soviets made such an appeal Khrushchev said the Chinese would meet with a "stern rebuff" if they failed to cooperate.

(Cont'd)

d. This brought forth new venom from the Chinese Communists, and they have since reminded the Soviets they are still waiting for the "stern rebuff."

4. Syria

a. Syria is in a state of domestic confusion. Disturbances, some serious, are cropping out like the pox, and there are rumors of a general strike.

b. Nasir's maneuvers and the downfall of the Baathist regime in Iraq have left Damascus thoroughly isolated.

c. Such circumstances have caused coups in Syria before, and the Baathist military leaders in power show signs of nervousness. They are acting ruthlessly to forestall the day even they seem to think inevitable.

d. It would probably take a military coup to throw them out, but no opposition group appears at the moment to be that well organized.

5. Panama-US

a. Panamanian publishers are holding a meeting today, which President Chiari will attend, to consider possibilities for toning down the anti-US press campaign.

(Cont'd)

b. Relatively moderate news treatment of the US-Panamanian problem by two papers on Saturday was intended as a trial balloon.

c. Chiari hopes to restore confidence in the business community without giving the extremists the opportunity of charging he has gone soft.

d. We have no information on what was discussed between Chiari and Costa Rican President Orlich late last week. Chiari does seem, however, to be seeking a way out of his deadlock with the US.

NOTES

A. Cuba-UK Castro says he has offered to discuss with the British compensation for the Shell oil refinery and assets taken over in 1960. The indemnity offer, made shortly after the bus deal was concluded, is intended, Castro says, to strengthen Cuba's international credit position.

B. Congo-China Brazzaville Congo has recognized Peiping as the "sole legal government representing all the Chinese people," according to a Peiping broadcast. Until now, Congo Brazzaville has recognized Taipei. It would be the first state to follow De Gaulle's lead.

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D. Bolivia President Paz has ordered his troublesome air force chief, General Barrientos, out of the country because of his oppositionist politicking and newly developed connections with Lechin. By way of emphasis, the general's home was bombed yesterday [redacted] Barrientos is believed to be in the US now.

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E. India For the third consecutive year, food grain output apparently will fail to keep pace with India's annual population increase of over ten million. A heavy drain on PL-480 buffer stocks now there seems inevitable, as does a request for more.